

TECH AND TEA DELIVERY IN SALFORD COMMUNITY LEISURE VENUES

INSPIRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

January 2016 - July 2018



Tech and Tea has been commissioned through Salford Public Health to develop a programme of informal digital skills development across Salford for residents over the age of 65 years alongside helping individuals identify ways in which they can improve their own health and wellbeing.

By using community venues such as those managed by Salford Community Leisure (SCL) we have seen not only the impact on the individuals accessing the course but also the added value for SCL as the library at the Sports Village and the Height library are now recognised centres of community tech learning and support. This also supports the council's aim of becoming a digital city, providing digital inclusion for some of the city's most excluded residents (older people).

This report sets out what has been achieved so far and highlights some of our success stories.



1

Colin is 68 and lives in Lower Kersal. He attended one of the first Tech & Tea courses at Salford Sports Village Library.

After the course he decided to become a Wellbeing Champion and has given over 100 hours of time volunteering on the Tech and Tea project.

"It's been brilliant, I've learned new skills and I've even helped other people."

2

Barbara, (Broughton library) "I've spoken with my cousins in Jerusalem using Skype. It's great to be able to see each other."

3

Nearly a quarter (22%) of all Tech and Tea courses have been delivered from a SCL venue:

6 venues have been used: Salford Sports Village, Eccles Library, the Height Library, Broughton Hub, Rainbow Rooms, Eccles, Walkden Gateway

We have delivered 29 courses at these venues to 233 local residents.

4

2796 hours of community learning have been delivered from SCL venues.

5

Many learners sign up to further courses and activities or become volunteers, like Alex who joined a Tech and Tea course at Salford Sports Village **"because I was getting tired of my family joking that I was a fossil"**. After the course he became an ICT environmental volunteer, helping with community litter picks and clean ups.

6

The Salford university evaluation (Sept 2017) found that Tech and Tea supported social inclusion by providing an opportunity for people to make new friendships & to feel more connected to the local community.

These opportunities were expanded in January 2017, when we started to offer drop-in sessions to Tech and Tea "graduates" at our digital hubs, two of which can be found in SCL buildings:

- the Height Library
- Salford Sports Village library

7

In total we have delivered 37 sessions to 113 people providing help with email, accessing YouTube, Google searching, downloading and installing apps & keeping safe online (antivirus software).

8

Avril is 71 and lives opposite the Salford Sports Village on Littleton Road. She took part in a Tech and Tea at the Sports Village having spent time in the library struggling to use their computers. "I'm really interested in researching my family history and want to use Google to do research".

She decided to join the Ambition for Ageing Green and Grow group at the Sports Village and now volunteers every week.

9

We plan to continue to deliver courses and drop-ins at SCL venues for the life of the project, for the benefit of individuals and organisations involved.

Inspiring Communities Together is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation operating as a community anchor in Charlestown and Lower Kersal alongside delivering services across Salford and beyond.

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**One Page
Impact Reports**